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BEAUTIFUL

NATIVE PLANTS

FROM THE
HIGH PLAINS, BADLANDS
AND BLACK HILLS
1939



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FOREWORD

The following lists of Great Plains plants are worthy of the critical attention of all lovers of the rare and beautiful. Many of them are very dwarf, some have remarkably long flowering periods, some win their place through mass color in their seasons, others by sheer individuality and beauty. Among them are gems as fine as America produces.

Briefly, the Plains comprise the vast higher, drier prairies that slope from the 3500, or 5000, or 7000 foot base of the Rockies to the "true prairies" at about 1800 feet. Portions of ten states and two Canadian provinces are included. To travelers of the plains ascent or descent appear easy. Routes of passage, mainly, frequent the more level places, and these are strongholds of the deserts of grass. But every water course has its valley margins, its bluffs or rugged hills, sand hills now and again paralleling the larger streams, and every tableland or "plain" has its "breaks," or as in the "bad lands" ancient base levels, upheaved, have been eroded into fantastic contour. And in these rugged places, more or less apart from the highways of men, the flowering plants hold sway. Not often in panoramas as in climates more favored in moisture but sometimes, if one is fortunate or "knows the roads," enough of beauty to fill a day of adventuring to overflowing.

To these plants drainage is an inherited advantage both as to the surface and the sub-soil, and further, they are adapted to endure all that drought can offer in any one season, growth and flowering naturally depending on adequate moisture. Such conditions tell the secret of their full enjoyment in gardens.

TERMS

In every instance we strive to supply the plant, large or small, that will meet your reasonable expectation and live and grow in your garden. The creeping phloxes are representative of many that are simply impossible in old, woody specimens but relatively easy in small plants with young vigorous roots. The final result is the measure of your money's worth.

Delivery is prepaid on all plants; it simplifies ordering and service. Orders of less than one dollar are not solicited.

A list of seeds harvested during the year will be mailed to you in autumn. Requests for rare plants or others not listed will have our best attention.

Plant names used accord with HORTUS in so far as practicable.

Actinea (Tetraneuris) simplex Flowers of pure shining gold, Gaillardia type, 4 to 8" above narrow basal leaves, May to July or later. Silver edged autumn rosettes. 20c; doz. \$2.00.

Anemone patens nuttalliana (Pulsatilla ludoviciana) Buds warm-robed in silver fur open into large six-pointed stars of lavender satin,

with glowing centers, March to May; then come attractive seed heads. Pasque Flower, state flower of South Dakota. 35c; 3, 90c.

Antennaria aprica One of the delightful mat-formers called Pussy-toes, Ladies' Tobacco, etc. Broad little leaves of silvery olive an inch high. The flowers are but furry heads on 4" stems. Evergreen. Many uses. 20c; doz. \$2.00.

Artemisia frigida Low, feathery, silvery and fragrant tufted Sage. Arching spikes of tiny yellowish bells, August. 25c; 3, 60c.

Asclepias pumila A Milkweed but 4 to 9" high, with closely set linear leaves. Terminal umbels, creamy white in the type. We have also a light pink form. Either, 25c; 3, 50c.

Aster kumleini Sheets of blue and gold, September. Our selection, Prairie Gem Blue, challenges comparison with any Aster of its color growing about 12" high. 35c.

A. kumleini also in rose pink and silver blue, each 25c; doz. \$2.00.

A. meritus A rare species with broad flat-topped corymbs of pinkish violet. July. 8 to 12". A customer says, "One of the choicest plants in my rock garden." 40c; 3, \$1.00.

A. ptarmicoides (Unamia alba) White rayed, cream centered, handsome and valuable. July, September. Height about 12". 30c; 3, 75c.

See also **Chrysopsis** and **Sideranthus**, fall blooming Aster-like flowers of golden yellow.

Astragalus goniatus Numerous heads of fresh clear lavender touched with purple, June, August. Height 4 to 8". Its dense habit and rapid traveling make it a natural ground-cover, its beauty makes it worth confining for select company. 40c; doz. \$3.50.

A. (Xylophacos) missouriensis Sheep Pod. Showy racemes of magenta-purple Pea blossoms, May, June, above gray pinnate leaves. Height 4", spread 16". 30c, \$3.75.

Other **Astragali** are found under **Homalobus**, **Orophaca**, **Oxytropis**.

Campanula petiolata Western Harebell, often without any rotund basal leaves; large flowered, free blooming, June, September. 8 to 12". 30c; 3, 85c.

Cerastium strictum Abundant white flowers, to 8 inches, from a low mat of rich green, May, July. Nearly evergreen ground-cover for shade. 15c; doz. \$1.00.

Chrysopsis villosa Golden Aster. Typical hardy Aster flowers for August, September effect. Leaves grayish, height about 12". 30c; 3, 75c.

Clematis (Viorna) scotti Leatherflower. Blue to purple, nodding urn Clematis but 10" high. May, June. Silky, tawny seed plumes. Sun or shade, relative dryness. 50c; 3, \$1.35.

C. (Atragene) tenuiloba "Fairies-Bower." Beautiful two-inch Clematis flowers of deep

blue-purple, May, June. 6 to 10" high. Prefers rich soil, not too dry. A recent introduction of highest praise. \$1.00; 3, \$2.50.

Dalea (Parosela) enneandra Airy swaying racemes of silvery calyces and whitish blossoms are carried 24" or more up, on slender arching stems. Can be interplanted with any low material with delightful result. Blossom effect, June, August. 30c; 3, 75c.

Delphineum bicolor Wild Larkspur. Flowers of deep blue velvet on a branching 12" plant, June. 30c; 3, 75c.

Dodecatheon pauciflorum Dwarf Shooting Star. Bears its charming rockets of bright rose and gold in May and June. Usually 8" or less. Likes rich soil and is not a plant of wet places. 40c; 3, \$1.00; doz. \$3.50.

Echinacea angustifolia The lower Cone Flower, a great pink—not purple—Daisy with prickly mahogany center. Strikingly beautiful 10 to 14". June, July. 30c; 3, 75c.

Erigeron caespitosus Very pretty white Fleabane Daisy with the useful habit of July flowering. 10". 40c; 3, \$1.00.

E. canus Similar but sometimes tinted lavender, very narrow rayed. 10", leaves grayish. June. 20c; 3, 50c.

E. commixtus A slightly smaller, neater, less invasive sister to flagellaris. Height 6 to 7", June and later. New and rare. You will like it. 40c; doz. \$2.50.

E. flagellaris Whiplash Daisy. An appealing, delicate ground-cover with a surge of white blossoms in June and scattered bloom to October. Sets many new plants within a range of 20" if the low lateral branches that root at the tips are not clipped back. 25c; doz. \$1.50.

E. glabellus Lavender or white, as many as five flowers to the stem. Many stemmed, 8 to 12". Mat of glossy evergreen leaves. 35c; 3, 90c.

Eriogonum flavum Distinct and beautiful plant of perfect garden habit. Green velvet leaves, lined white, lie in a close mat on the ground; large umbels of yellow, fuzzy with stamens, rise 4 to 12", in June. 50c; 3, \$1.35.

Galium boreale Tiny white flowers in close vertical spikes, June, July. Leaves small, dark green. Light shade, rich soil. 20c; 3, 50c.

Galpinsia, see *Oenothera*.

Gutierrezia sarothrae Broom Bush. A Goldenrod cousin, growing into a hemisphere of vivid green, turning to gold in September. Much admired. Height 10 or 12". 35c; 3, 65c.

Hedeoma campora Perennial Pennyroyal, of delectable and satisfying fragrance. Rounded, 8" bushlet flushed with tiny pink lavender blossoms from June on. 40c; 3, \$1.00; doz. \$2.50.

Homalobus (Astragalus) caespitosus A prickly, faintly frosty, 2" cushion, irresistible in

May when a mound of purple to violet, little "Clover" blossoms with white-tipped wings. Small plants move readily enough into half limestone chips, half clay loam. 30c; doz. \$3.00.

Lathyrus incanus (ornatus) Sand Pea. Conspicuous and beautiful Pea blossoms, clusters of two to seven, rose in the banner, pale pink to white in the wings. May. Foliage glaucous, 4 to 10". Colony plant preferring much sand. 25c; doz. \$2.00.

L. ornatus (stipulaceus) Like incanus but glabrous, and the banner has a possible tinge more of red and less of lavender. 30c; doz. \$2.50.

Lesquerella spatulata Bladder-pod. A crucifer, dainty and festive in brightest yellow, May, July. Height 4 to 5", spread to 10. Gray green winter rosettes. 20c; 3, 50c.

Leucocrinum montanum. The Sand Lily has no bulb but a sprangle of fleshy roots, and does famously in fine gravel with little soil, base of pip 2" deep. In April and May comes a succession of stemless little Lilies of waxy white with stamens of gold, in a tuft of grassy leaves. 25c; doz. \$2.00; 100. \$12.50.

Liatris ligulistylis Blazing Star. Has the largest heads of any Liatris, an inch wide, and relatively few, a lovely clear purple. July, August. 18" or less in the wild. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

L. punctata Dwarf Liatris. Fluffy spikes of fine transparent purple. August. Dark green, lance-linear basal leaves. 30c; 3, 75c.

Lithophragma parviflora Woodland Star, Fringe-cup. Slashed stars of purest white, at the tips of racemes that start at 4" and end at 12, May, June. A few little Saxifrage leaves at the base. Dormant soon after flowering. Rich soil, sun or shade. 3, 35c; doz. \$1.25.

Lithospermum linearifolium Puccoon. Glowing soft yellow, ruffled trumpets, one-half inch wide, May. Always a welcome show. 6 to 12". 30c; 3, 75c.

Malvastrum (Sphaeralcea) coccineum Flame Mallow. Short spires of one-inch Mallow blossoms of flame-scarlet, above unique deeply cut grayish leaves, June and later. 4 to 10". Lean gravel-filled soil. 25c; 3, 65c.

Meriolix, see **Oenothera**.

Mertensia lanceolata A Bluebell that grows but 10" high, beginning flowering in April and ending in late June; always abundantly. Foliage glaucous. Illustrated on cover. 35c; 3, 85c.

M. linearis New. Similar to lanceolata but with dark leaves and glossy dark blue corolla throats. Both are non-spreading and become dormant in mid-summer. 50c; 3, \$1.35.

Nothocalais ("Agoseris") cuspidata A rich textured golden flower of April and May, rayed to the center, two inches wide. A few deep channeled, white-margined leaves at the ground. 2 to 6". Dormant in summer. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Oenothera (Pachylophus) caespitosa Gumbo, or Cowboy Lily. Snowy, fragrant, four-inch Evening Primroses, among lanceolate glossy leaves, at the ground. May to August. Flowers are open all the day. Sharp drainage, lime. 25c; 3, 65c.

O. (Galpinsia) lavandulaefolia Two-inch, crinkly blossoms of clear, rich yellow, squarish, upright, open all the day and from June to frost; one of the bright jewels of the plains. Tiny grayish leaves, stems nearly prostrate. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

O. (Meriolix) serrulata A shrubby plant with cupped Evening Primroses of bright lemon yellow. Open through the day and in bloom from May to August. 10". Small plants of a very fine large flowered form, 50c each.

Oreocarya glomerata Thick spikes of neat white Forget-me-nots, broadening into panicles. Six weeks, mainly June. Usually short-lived; clip back when through flowering. 20c; 3, 50c.

Orophaca (Astragalus) caespitosa A silvery cushion of tri-parted leaves, smothered in April and May with a snow of stemless Pea blossoms. Often in company with Homalobus. A prize for the understanding gardener. 30c; 3, 75c.

O. tridactyla Red Orophaca. Very pleasing rose-lavender flowers on short stems. Foliage and habit like *O. caespitosa*, treatment as for Homalobus. Very rare. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

Oxytropis lamberti Loco. Many showy racemes of rich toned Pea blossoms, red-purple to blue, from light to dark, upright to 12", June. Silvery pinnate leaves at the ground are attractive all season. Easily accommodated in sand or gravel. 30c; doz. \$3.00.

Pachylophus, see *Oenothea*.

Parosela, see *Dalea*.

Pentstemon Among the largest flowered and most showy are the plains species. Their native soils are lean, with absorbent subsoil, and receive moderate moisture; here they are neither "touchy" nor impermanent.

P. albidus Close spires of large white blossoms, May, June. 14". Half sand. 20c; 3, 50c.

P. angustifolius A wonderful love in brilliant azure, above glaucous stems and leaves. June. 12". Sand preferred. 25c; 3, 65c.

P. eriantherus Large, warm lavender blossoms with gold-hairy tongues, in handsome spires. Leaves dark, hairy. June. 8 to 12". Lime, clay and sand. 25c; 3, 65c.

P. glaber A fine dark blue, often touched with purple. June, July, and again if cut back. Usually 18 or 20". Very adaptable. 30c; 3, 85c.

P. gracilis Graceful spikes of smaller, amethyst blossoms, to 12", June, July. Some leaf-mold. 30c; 3, 75c.

Petalostemon purpureus Prairie Clover. Slender stems from the ground, with inconspicuous leaves, and many long heads of purple-red

dotted with orange anthers. Fragrant, much admired. June, July. Dry position, sandy, 30c; 3, 75c.

P. villosus Hairy Prairie Clover. All parts of the plant a velvety gray green, a charming foil for the flowers of soft silvery rose. July, September. 10". For deep sand. 35c; 3, 90c..

Phacelia leucophylla Silver Phacelia. Very handsome rugose leaves and fiddleheads of pale lavender flowers, wonderfully beautiful in a dark setting. June, July. 10". Some richness, moderate moisture. half shade. **Introduction.** 50c each. -

Phlox alyssifolia Soft lavender pink to bright pink, often an inch in diameter, showering the carpets of grayish, white-margined leaves in May and June, and filling the garden with delicious fragrance. 5". Spreads slowly. Easy in this climate, shade first season. 30c; doz. \$3.

SPECIAL FOR 1939, finest selection of Phlox alyssifolia. Clear pink color and well-rounded corolla lobes. An English authority says of this, "One of the loveliest of all plants." **\$1.00** each.

P. andicola The large white blossomed, needle leaved Phlox of the high prairies. Delicate fragrance, long season, April through June. 4". 20c; doz. \$2.00.

P. hoodi (True species) Small white blossoms star the mossy green mats in April or May. 2" high, spreads very slowly, delights in gravelly or rocky footing, much shade until established. Of great charm. 30c; doz. \$3.00.

Potentilla divisa Astonishing beauty in sunlit yellow on a tuft of silver leaves. early May. Height 3", with an ultimate spread of 10. Good foliage, becoming greener in summer. **Introduction.** 50c.

Sideranthus spinulosus Masses of inch-wide golden Asters, September, October. The form offered is low branching, spreading, not over 6" high, with excellent, finely divided, frosty leaves. 30c; 3, 75c.

Solidago mollis Handsome 8 to 12" Goldenrod with very bright, roundish heads, September. Broad gray green leaves. 25c; 3, 65c.

S. trinervata Undoubtedly one of the most beautiful, and without stolons. Inflorescence a broad spike, usually 16" or less in height. Foliage rather dark, mostly basal. **Introduction.** 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Talinum parviflorum Little Fame Flower. A tuft of 2" succulent leaves, airy stems to 6 or 7", with daily—afternoon—showers of three-eighths inch rosy blossoms. Especially interesting in crevices. 3, 50c; doz, \$1.80.

Thermopsis rhombifolia Golden Pea. Glowing yellow, broad, close racemes, unusual and beautiful.. May, 10". Forms colonies. 30c; 3, 75c.

Townsendia exscapa Easter Daisy. Broad-faced, "inscrutable" pink Daisies in a 2" tuft of narrow evergreen leaves, April, May. Provide the dryest possible soil and situation. Dune sand is one of its habitats. 25c; 3, 65c.

T. sericea Smaller than exscapa in every way; three to four weeks earlier. Flowers more numerous, white or delicate pink. 25c; 3, 65c.

Tradescantia bracteata Might be called Rainbow Spiderwort from its wide color range. An apple-blossom pink has been noted; others are sky blue, lavender, bright rose, heliotrope and dark blue and purple. A continuous bloomer, starting at 4" in June, hardly exceeds 10. Mixed colors. 20c each; doz. \$2.00.

T. occidentalis Western Spiderwort. Blue flowers, blue green foliage. Forms close upright clumps. 12". Long season. 20c; doz. \$1.50.

Verbena bipinnatifida Wide heads of deep lavender constantly from May to October. Height 3 to 6", spread to 20 or more. 30c; 3, 75c.

Viola nephrophylla A lovely big blue. April, June. 30c; 3, 75c.

V. nuttalli The brilliant yellow, low violet of the dry open prairies. Profusely blooming, April through May. 30c; 3, 50c; doz. \$1.80.

BULBS—for delivery October 1st

Allium textile (reticulatum) Pretty when the clustered bulbs flaunt their broad umbels of green ribbed, white stars, May. 8". Doz. 35c.

Calochortus gunnisoni Mariposa Tulip. A very lovely white chalice with clusters of greenish hairs on the lower part of the petal. July. Few long grassy leaves. Doz. \$1.00; 100, \$7.50.

C. nuttalli Nuttall's Mariposa; Sego Lily, Utah's state flower. A wonder of white, gold and maroon. June. Leaves glaucous. These plains species are accustomed to extreme cold but must be guarded from excess moisture. Doz. 85c; 100, \$6.50.

Zygadenus (Toxicoscordion) gramineus False Camas. Crowded creamy stars with golden stamens on an erect spike, 8 to 16". Grass basal leaves. Doz. 60c; 100, \$4.50.

CACTI—Very Hardy Sorts

For a soil to please all of them use a little leafmold or good loam with much sand and gravel, and raise the bed a little, particularly for *Missouriensis* and *viridiflora*. Cacti should be dry and shrunken to go into the winter. Larger or group specimens at double the quotation.

Coryphantha (Mamillaria) vivipara Ball, to 3" or more, showy carmine flowers, June. 30c; 3, 75c.

Echinocereus viridiflorus Ball-shaped to cylindric, not often over 2" high, rarely 4. Bright colored spines, inch-and-a-half glossy blossoms, June. 25c; 3, 60c.

Neobesseyea (Mamillaria) missouriensis Ball rarely attaining 2". One inch to inch-and-a-half pale orange flowers, crimson fruits. 35c; 3, 80c.

Opuntia fragilis Brittle Cactus. 1 to 2" sections; silky 2" yellow flowers. 25c.

O. polyacantha Very spiny 4" or larger sections; 4" silken, yellow flowers. 25c.

O. rhodantha Like polyacantha in the plant, the abundant flowers are of the most lovely carmine rose silk. 40c.

O. tortispina (?) (humifusa) Large dark green sections, often 5 to 6" long, largest silken, yellow flowers with red filaments, latest to bloom, June. Ripe "pears" dark red. 25c.